

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 4. (Canceled).

5. (previously presented) A method of preparation of a wound care device according to claim 12, characterized in that the acid is an hydroxy or acyl organic acid, which is soluble in the solvent used, preferably glycolic, glyoxylic, pyruvic, lactic or a hydroxy propionic/butanic acid.

6. (previously presented) A method of preparation of a wound care device according to claim 12, characterized in that the heat treatment of the chitosan is carried out at a temperature of about 50 – 250 °C.

7. (Canceled).

8. (previously presented) A wound care device according to claim 1, characterized in that the device comprises from 0-60% of fibers other than chitosan.

9. (previously presented) A method of preparation of a wound care device according to claim 12, characterized in that the acid is a mixture of at least two acids.

10. (previously presented) A method of preparation of a wound care device according to claim 12, characterized in that the ratio of acid to chitosan is from 2 mmol to 20 mmol acid per gram chitosan.

11. (previously presented) A method of preparation of a wound care device according to claim 12, characterized in that the ratio of acid to chitosan is 2 to 7.5 mmol acid per gram chitosan.

12. (currently amended) A method of preparation of a wound care device comprising chitosan being capable of absorbing liquid to form a swollen, coherent gel, said method comprises the steps of:

- a) suspending the chitosan in the form of fibers in a non-solvent comprising acid;
- b) isolating the resulting modified chitosan fibers from the non-solvent; and
- c) treating the chitosan fibers with heat during step a) or/and b).

13. (previously presented) A method of preparation of a wound care device according to claim 12, characterized in that the fibers are manufactured into a fiber rope, knitted, woven or non-woven sheet or fabric.

14 – 23. (Canceled).

24. (new) A wound care device made by the method of claim 5.

25. (new) A wound care device made by the method of claim 6.

26. (new) A wound care device made by the method of claim 9.

27. (new) A wound care device made by the method of claim 10.

28. (new) A wound care device made by the method of claim 11.

29. (new) A wound care device made by the method of claim 12.

30. (new) A wound care device made by the method of claim 13.